

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Refaat S. Fanous

Application No.: 10/616,707

Filing Date: July 10, 2003 For: Self-Retaining Retractor Group No.: 3732

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS INQUIRY

- More than twelve months have passed since the filing of this application. No communication has been received from the Patent and Trademark Office indicating action on this application.
- Kindly advise the undersigned of the present status of this application, by checking the appropriate box on the next page. A stamped return-addressed envelope is provided.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10*

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TRANSMISSION

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^{*} Only the date of filing (\$ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (\$1.10) or facsimile transmission (\$1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

Date: January 10, 2005

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STATUS INQUIRY REPLY

APPLICATION NO. 10/616,707 IS CURRENTLY

[] ASSIGNED TO GROUP ______ AND AWAITS:

[] ACTION BY THE EXAMINER.

[] APPLICANT'S RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED